

Octagon House
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

HABS No. DC-25
HABS
D.C.

WASH

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Columbia

Historic American Buildings Survey

Prepared at Washington Office

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS...

Octagon House (Col. John Tayloe House;
American Institute of Architects
Headquarters)
1799 New York Avenue, NW
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-25

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Addendum to

Octagon House
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE District of Columbia		COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY Washington
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Octagon House			HABS NO. DC-25
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Col. John Tayloe House; American Institute of Architects Headquarters			
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 1799 New York Avenue, NW			
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1798-1800		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) William Thornton	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Excellent and innovative example of Federal style domestic architecture. Served as Executive Mansion for a year after the British burned the White House in 1814. Treaty of Ghent signed in circular room on second floor. Designed by Thornton, original designer of the U.S. Capitol.			
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Federal			
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick with sandstone trim			
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Irregular hexagonal shape with projecting semi-circular entrance bay; 3-story on raised basement; low hipped roof			
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE 1-story Ionic porch; belt course; recessed panels between floors; fanlight over entrance			
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Circular vestibule; central 3-story curving stairwell; elaborate plasterwork; elaborately carved mantels			
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Original flat roof replaced ca. 1825. Became headquarters of the AIA in 1902. Major restorations 1947-1956 and 1968-1970, J. E. Fauber, Jr., restoration architect.			
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Condition good.			
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE			
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Schwartz, Nancy B. <u>Historic American Buildings Survey District of Columbia Catalog, 1974.</u> National Historic Landmark Category I District of Columbia Landmark			
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Alison K. Hoagland, HABS (edited by Druscilla J. Null, HABS)			DATE 7/21/83

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Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001